

Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

17 September, 2018, Bulletin 26

Analysis

The Microcystis cyanobacteria bloom continues in the western basin of Lake Erie. Recent satellite imagery (9/16) shows the bloom extending from the Maumee Bay east along the coast of Ohio to the Magee Marsh Wildlife Area. A large sediment plume throughout the western basin may be obscuring detected concentrations. Winds observed over the weekend (9/14-16) likely promoted slight mixing of Microcystis concentrations. Toxin concentrations were detected at all sampling sites but remain below the recreational threshold. Keep pets and yourself out of the water in areas where scum is forming. The persistent cyanobacteria bloom in Sandusky Bay continues.

Forecasts

Winds (3-20 kn) forecast today through Thursday (9/17-20) will promote mixing of surface waters and westward transport of *Microcystis* concentrations. --Lalime, Ludema

Additional Resources

To find a safe place for recreation, visit the Ohio DOH "BeachGuard" site: http://epa.ohio.gov/beachguardpublic/ Ohio EPA's site on harmful algal blooms: http://epa.ohio.gov/HAB-Algae NOAA's GLERL provides additional HAB data here: http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/HABs and Hypoxia

The images below are "GeoPDF". Please visit https://go.usa.gov/xReTC for instructions on viewing longitude and latitude.

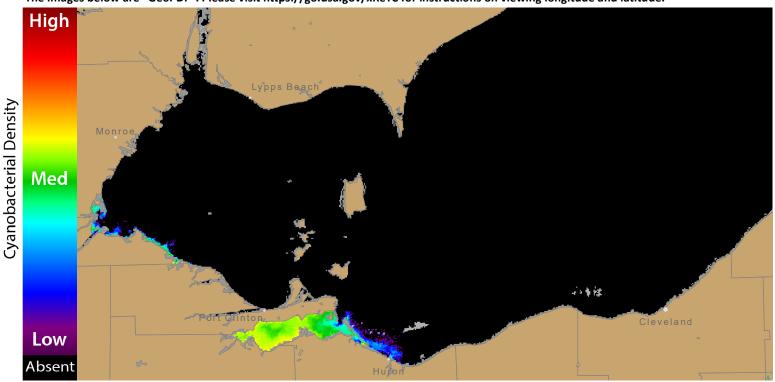


Figure 1. Cyanobacterial Index from modified Copernicus Sentinel 3 data collected 16 September, 2018 at 11:49 EST. Grey indicates clouds or missing data. The estimated threshold for cyanobacteria detection is 20,000 cells/mL.

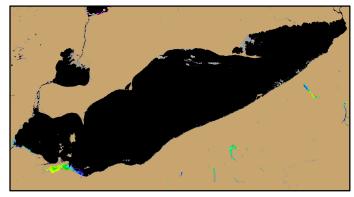
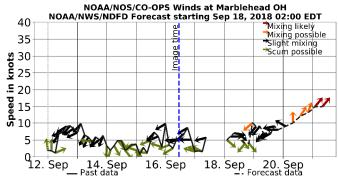


Figure 2. Cyanobacterial Index from modified Copernicus Sentinel 3 data collected 16 September, 2018 at 11:49.



Wind speed and direction from Marblehead, OH. Blooms mix through the water column at wind speeds greater than 15 knots (or 7.7 m/s).

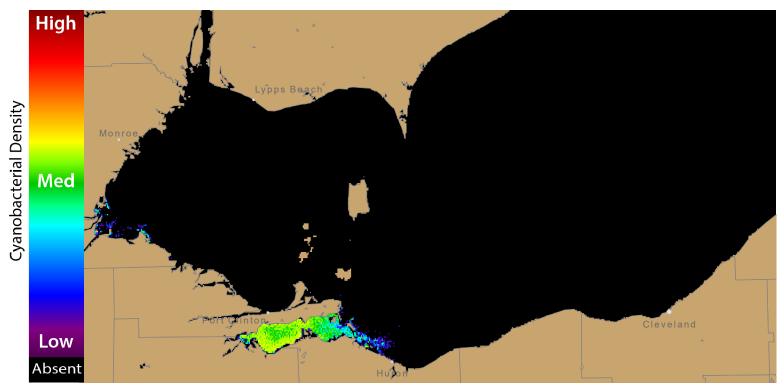


Figure 3. Nowcast position of bloom for 17 September, 2018 using LEOFS modelled currents to move the bloom from the 16 September,

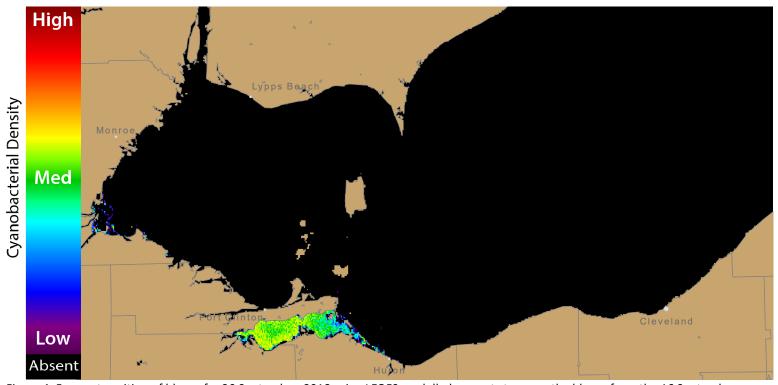
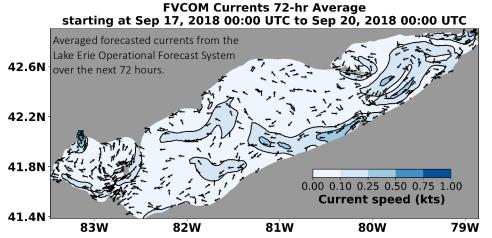


Figure 4. Forecast position of bloom for 20 September, 2018 using LEOFS modelled currents to move the bloom from the 16 September,



For more information and to subscribe, please visit the NOAA HAB Forecast page:

https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/lakeerie.html